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Section C

Certification

Certification

- Part of ARRA/meaningful use
- Tied to financial incentives
- EHR certification is not new

Certification Is Not ...

- Conformance testing
- Interoperability testing

EHR Certification Is ...

- Functional specification of a system
- Very high level
- In terms users appreciate

What Is Certification?

- Providers and patients must be confident that the electronic health information technology (health IT) products and systems they use:
 - Are secure
 - Can maintain data confidentially
 - Can work with other systems to share information
 - Can perform a set of well-defined functions
- <http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1153&mode=2>

Example Criteria

- Drug-drug, drug-allergy interaction checks
- Drug-formulary checks
- Generate patient lists
- Audit log
- Authentication
- Record demographics
- Reportable lab results

Evaluation

- Interview
- Inspection
- Documentation review
- Check lists
- Scripts

Motivation

- For a vendor
 - Marketing: my system has been certified ...
- For a hospital
 - Assurance of ...
 - Incentive \$\$\$
- For the industry
 - Leads to common definition of EHR

Future Certification Will Include

- Testing of interfaces
 - EHR as a collection of systems

- Part of a larger environment
 - Health Information Exchange (HIE)
 - Public health reporting

- Mechanisms
 - Reuse conformance tests
 - Reuse interoperability tests

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Coming up Next ...